



## **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument**

**Visitor Center: 51-500 Highway 74, Palm Desert, CA 92260**  
**Phone: 760/862-9984**

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**Fall 2008 – Spring 2009**

**Name of Event: Thursday Morning Hikes**

**Day, Date, Time:** Every Thursday 6 - 8 am through September; 8:30 - 10:30 am October through April

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Friends of the Desert Mountains staff and volunteers

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Enjoy a healthy and informative 1 – 2 hour hike up into the Santa Rosa Mountains and enjoy majestic views of the valley below. Destinations vary based on participants' interests and abilities. These easy to moderate hikes will explore local areas via the Art Smith, Hopalong Cassidy and Randall Henderson Trails. Participants should wear appropriate clothing and footwear, and bring plenty of water. Free.

**Contact:** For more information and RSVP, call Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984 or check on line at [www.desertmountains.org](http://www.desertmountains.org)

**Name of Event: Palms to Pines Birding & Nature Trail Bus Tour**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, September 6, 2008; 10 am - 3 pm

**Location:** Rendezvous / departure point to be determined

**Guide:** Kurt Leuschner, Associate Professor, College of the Desert

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Whether you are a beginning or serious birder, enjoy spectacular desert and mountain scenery on a bus tour to well-known birding and nature hotspots in and around the Coachella Valley. Tickets: \$45; \$35 for members of Friends of the Desert Mountains. RSVP required.

**Contact:** Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: There's a Monument in Your Backyard**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, September 16, 2008; 10 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Take a photographic journey of the magnificent landscape, plants, animals and places to visit in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. Free.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Monuments National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Equestrian Trails of Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, September 20, 2008; 10 am

**Location:** The Pumpkin Patch, located on Live Oak Cyn. Rd, just south of Interstate 10, in Redlands

**Presenter:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Redshank Riders Equestrians, San Geronio Pass Backcountry Horsemen

**Description:** Learn about equestrian opportunities in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains and Leave No Trace techniques in getting to where you want to go! Free horse care workshops too from 9 am to 3 pm.

**Contact:** Allison Renck, 951/763-0374 [Ali9591@aol.com](mailto:Ali9591@aol.com), or Tracy Albrecht, 760/251-4827 or [Talbrech@ca.blm.gov](mailto:Talbrech@ca.blm.gov)

**Name of Event: There's a Monument in Your Backyard**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, September 30, 2008; 10 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Take a photographic journey of the magnificent landscape, plants, animals and places to visit in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. Free.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: The Top Ten Scary Desert Creatures**

**Day, Date, Time:** Wednesday, October 8, 2008; Noon

**Location:** Community Room, 1000 Palms Library, 31-189 Robert Rd, Thousand Palms

**Presenter:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Which desert creatures are most venomous, strongest, and sneakiest? Find out what a public poll determined to be the most feared fauna, and learn about their fascinating abilities.

**Contact:** Thousand Palms Library, 760/343-1556. Free, no RSVP necessary.

**Name of Event: Pack Rat Hike on Randall Henderson Trail**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, October 14, 2008; 9 am

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Are you a Pack Rat? Take a hike on the Randall Henderson Trail and visit some of the homes of Pack Rats, one of the smaller mammals of the National Monument. One-mile easy hike.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Cactus Springs Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, October 17, 2008; 8:30 am – 2:30 pm

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert, for directions and departure to trailhead.

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** At 4,000 feet, this Pinyon Pine-Juniper Woodland transition zone with its riparian habitat displays a great diversity of plant and animal life. An undulating route of about five miles and 900 feet elevation change, this is rated moderate to strenuous. Bring water and lunch. Free, limited to 12 participants. RSVP.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Is Anybody Home? Nature Walk**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, October 24, 2008; 8:30 – 10:30 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Do you know what a tarantula's hole or tortoise den look like? Celebrate the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument and take an easy walk on the Randall Henderson Trail. Learn which animals live in all those holes and dens seen along the trail. Hike is 3 miles and rated easy.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Pack Rat Hike on Randall Henderson Trail**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, October 28, 2008; 9 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Are you a Pack Rat? Take a hike on the Randall Henderson Trail and visit some of the homes of Pack Rats, one of the smaller mammals of the National Monument. One-mile easy hike.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Monuments National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Happy Tails Doggie Adventure Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Wednesday, November 5, 2008; 8 - 9:30 am

**Location:** Cahuilla Hills Park, Palm Desert

**Guides:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; and Michelle Hedgecock, Caliso Learning

**Sponsor:** Caliso Learning, Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Dogs! Fetch your master and your leash for a session of adventurous canine companionship. We'll practice good behavior on a desert trail, with happy tails! Learners welcome. No aggressive dogs please. Free, RSVP requested.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: San Jacinto Peak Adventure & Guided Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, November 8, 2008; 7:30 am – 4:30 pm

**Location:** Meet at Palm Springs Aerial Tram Station for 8 am tram departure!

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Great opportunity for spectacular tram ride to summit of Southern California's second highest peak at 10,834 ft. Learn about its creation and role in the ecosystems from desert valleys to mountaintop! Strenuous rating with 2,300 ft. vertical ascent. Tram fee required. RSVP

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Pack Rat Hike on Randall Henderson Trail**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, November 11, 2008; 9 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Are you a Pack Rat? Take a hike on the Randall Henderson Trail and visit some of the homes of Pack Rats, one of the smaller mammals of the National Monument. One-mile easy hike.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Art Smith Trail Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, November 14, 2008; 8 am – 2 pm

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Stunning vistas appear while hiking at 2,000 ft along the edge of the Coachella Valley. Features of the San Andreas Fault are everywhere telling us about the desert and its diversity of plants and animals. Rated moderate to strenuous, this is a 6 to 7-mile hike with 1,000 feet of elevation change. Bring plenty of water, snacks and lunch. Free, limited to 12 participants. RSVP

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: History of Conservation in the Coachella Valley with Buford Crites**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, November 18, 2008; 4:30 – 6 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Highway 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Buford Crites, Board Member, Friends of the Desert Mountains

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Learn about the history of our valley from one of our area's best storytellers. Take a journey through time and revisit events spanning from expeditions of the Spanish explorers to explosive development in recent years. Be sure to catch Part 2, "MSHCP and the New Trails Plan," on Tuesday, November 25.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Desert Survivors Nature Walk**

**Day, Date, Time:** Wednesday, November 19, 2008; 8:30 - 10:30 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guides:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; and Steve Fuchs, Interpretive Guide, Friends of the Desert Mountains volunteer

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Life in the desert can be a challenge, but the flora found here has adapted ways in which to overcome such harsh conditions. Take a walk on the Randall Henderson Trail and get to know ten plants and their "secrets" to living in the desert. Hike is 3 miles roundtrip and rated easy.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: MSHCP and the New Trails Plan**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, November 25, 2008; 4:30 – 6 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Highway 74, Palm Desert

**Presenters:** Katie Barrows, Director of Environmental Resources, Coachella Valley Association of Governments; and Jim Foote, Monument Manager, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Learn about the Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Trails Plan for the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains. Don't miss Part 1, "History of Conservation in the Coachella Valley with Buford Crites," on Tuesday, November 18.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984

**Name of Event: Desert Life Nature Walk**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, November 28, 2008; 9 am, repeats 1 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guides:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; and Steve Fuchs, Interpretive Guide, Friends of the Desert Mountains volunteer

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Heat, wind and a lack of water are a few of the challenges in the desert, but that doesn't mean this is a lifeless place. Take a walk on the Randall Henderson Trail to see the beauty of the desert and learn about the ways the plants and animals have adapted to call this place home. Hike is 3 miles roundtrip and rated easy.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Toddler Trek**

**Day, Date, Time:** Wednesday, December 3, 2008; 9 - 10 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Caliso Learning and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Help your toddler use all their senses in fun and safe ways! Young observers eighteen months to three years old are welcome with an adult.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument 760/862-9984. Free, RSVP appreciated.

**Name of Event: Murray Hill Peak Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Wednesday, December 10, 2008; 8 am - 3 pm

**Location:** Garstin Trail trailhead, off Bogert Trail in south Palm Springs

**Guide:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Check out the Coachella Valley from a unique point of view while exploring the Santa Rosa Mountains. This hike will take you on 3 trails before reaching Murray Peak. Hike is 10 miles roundtrip and rated strenuous.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Twas the Night Before Christmas**

**Day, Date, Time:** Thursday, December 18, 2008; 5 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Curious about what some of the creatures of the Monument might be doing on the night before Christmas? A presentation about unusual and interesting creatures of the National Monument.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Bald Eagle Count at Lake Hemet**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, December 20, 2008; 8:30 – 10 am

**Location:** Lake Hemet

**Guide:** Heidi Lake Hoggan, Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service

**Sponsor:** US Forest Service, Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Pack a watch and binoculars to join US Forest Service Wildlife Biologists in the annual census of our national bird. Free.

**Contact:** RSVP at 909/382-2945 or hhoggan@fs.fed.us

**Name of Event: Carrizo Canyon Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, December 26, 2008; 9 am – Noon

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert



**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide  
**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
**Description:** This hidden canyon hike takes us “inside” the Santa Rosa Mountains where we see up close the intricately folded and shattered rocks that were here first. Don’t miss this moderate hike into this rich ecological niche. Bring water and snacks. RSVP 760/862-9984  
**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Vargas Palms Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Monday, January 5, 2009; 8:30 am – 1 pm  
**Location:** Meet on Snow Creek Road at Highway 111, located about three miles west of Windy Point (near the I-10 and Highway 111 interchange)  
**Guide:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
**Description:** This five-mile roundtrip hike travels over a variety of terrain including creosote scrub, sand dunes, desert wash and through a native palm oasis. Cameras are recommended to capture the stunning landscape. Rated moderate with 300-foot elevation gain. Free, RSVP necessary.  
**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of event: Nature Hike in Murray Hill Trail Complex**

**Day, date, time:** Thursday, January 8, 2009; 8:30 am - 2:30 pm  
**Location:** Garstin Trail trailhead, off Bogert Trail in south Palm Springs  
**Guide:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument  
**Description:** Explore a cactus-studded trail system in the Santa Rosa Mountains, just east of Palm Canyon. Hike on five trails in the Murray Hill trails complex. Hike is 7 miles roundtrip and rated moderate to strenuous.  
**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Bald Eagle Count at Lake Hemet**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, January 10, 2009; 8:30 – 10 am  
**Location:** Lake Hemet  
**Guide:** Heidi Lake Hoggan, Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service

**Sponsor:** US Forest Service, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, and Friends of the Desert Mountains

**Description:** Pack a watch and binoculars to join US Forest Service Wildlife Biologists in the annual census of our national bird. Free.

**Contact:** RSVP at 909/382-2945 or hhoggan@fs.fed.us

**Name of Event: Science Fair Workshop**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, January 13, 2009; 2:30 - 5 pm, come anytime

**Location:** Desert Water Agency Water Recycling Plant, located on Gene Autry Trail behind Knott's Soak City Water Park, Palm Springs.

**Presenters:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; and Katie Rourk, Public Information Associate, Desert Water Agency

**Sponsor:** Desert Water Agency, Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Beat the science fair blues and design a super science project at this free workshop. Ideas for questions, research tips and experiment designs will be provided by science experts. Appropriate for all grades.

**Contact:** Katie Rourk, Public Information Associate, Desert Water Agency, 760/323-4971

**Name of Event: Ready, Set, Find! .... Geocaching in the National Monument**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, January 17, 2009; 10 am - 4 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Arrive at 10 am for a brief introduction about this "treasure hunt." Get a coordinate list for ten geocaches that are on trails in the National Monument near the Visitor Center. Each cache will have a sign-in sheet and a special bit of information about the National Monument. Participants must have their own GPS unit to participate.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for more details

**Name of Event: Hiking for Health**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, January 20, 2009; 9 am – 12 noon

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Bonnie Adkins, Park Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; and Steve Fuchs, Interpretive Guide, Friends of the Desert Mountains

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Improve your health on an easy to moderate hike on the Randall Henderson Trail, 3 miles, 400' elevation gain. Get exercise and fitness tips.

**Contact:** Free; please RSVP. Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, call 760/862-9984 to sign up and for more information.

**Name of Event: RV Fire Safety Workshop**

**Date, Time:** Wednesday, January 21, 2009; 9 - 11 am

**Location:** Two Springs Resort, 14200 North Indian Canyon Drive, North Palm Springs

**Presenter:** Chuck Robbins, Fire Mitigation and Education Specialist, Bureau of Land Management

**Sponsor:** Bureau of Land Management

**Description:** Information on do-it-yourself inspections and traveling tips. Free fire safety materials. Demonstration on use of fire extinguishers will make your travels safer. Free. No RSVP necessary.

**Contact:** Bureau of Land Management, 760/251-4800

**Name of Event: Are You Smarter Than a Raven?**

**Day, date, time:** Friday, January 23, 2009; 10 am, repeats at 2 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Being called "bird brain" might not be such a bad thing. Learn about the raven and some of its family members that are known for their intelligence. Study up and be ready to test yourself with some mind games and puzzles, just for fun!

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Happy Tails Doggie Adventure Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Wednesday, February 4, 2009; 8 - 9:30 am

**Location:** Cahuilla Hills Park, Palm Desert

**Guides:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument; and Michelle Hedgecock, Caliso Learning

**Sponsor:** Caliso Learning, Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Dogs! Fetch your master and your leash for a session of adventurous canine companionship. We'll practice good behavior on a desert trail, with happy tails! Learners welcome. No aggressive dogs please.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984. Free, RSVP requested.

**Name of Event: Victor Trail Nature Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, February 13, 2009; 8:30 am - Noon

**Location:** Meet at tollgate entrance to Indian Canyons in south Palm Springs

**Guide:** Tracy Albrecht, Interpretive Specialist, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Native plants and their uses will be emphasized while hiking this ridge overlooking the largest palm oasis in the world. This hike is rated moderate with a 300-foot elevation gain in 2 ½ miles. Early wildflowers expected, cameras recommended! Hike is free, but entrance fee to canyons required.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Bald Eagle Count at Lake Hemet**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, February 14, 2009; 8:30 – 10 am

**Location:** Lake Hemet

**Guide:** Heidi Lake Hoggan, Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service

**Sponsor:** US Forest Service, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, and Friends of the Desert Mountains

**Description:** Pack a watch and binoculars to join US Forest Service Wildlife Biologists in the annual census of our national bird. Free.

**Contact:** RSVP at 909/382-2945 or hhoggan@fs.fed.us

**Name of Event: Amazing Adaptations Discovery at Andreas Canyon**

**Day, Date, Time:** Monday, February 16, 2009; 9 am – 1 pm

**Location:** Meet at tollgate entrance to Indian Canyons in south Palm Springs

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Gather in the splendor of a majestic native palm grove, and take an easy/moderate walk alongside Andreas Creek. Learn about some of the amazing survival adaptations that make it possible for desert plants and animals to thrive in this “harsh” environment. Bring lunch, snacks and plenty of water. Hike is free, but entrance fee to canyons required. RSVP and get directions.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: History of Trails in the National Monument**

**Day, Date, Time:** Thursday, February 19, 2009; Noon

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Whom are these trails named for? Trails in the National Monument have seen many changes over time. Learn about the history of these trails and what the future holds for their use.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/ 862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Nature Hike to Indian Potrero in Palm Canyon**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, February 20, 2009; 8 am – 3 pm

**Location:** Meet at tollgate entrance to Indian Canyons in south Palm Springs

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Hike along a stream through the world's largest native palm Oasis. Slowly ascend to the Indian Potrero, a bouldered pasture plateau nestled beneath the towering ridges of the San Jacinto and Santa Rosa Mountains. At 7 miles and 1,200 feet elevation gain, this is rated strenuous. Bring water, snacks and lunch, sunscreen, and hat. Hike is free, but entrance fee to canyons required. Limited to 12 hikers. RSVP

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Annual Wildflower Celebration**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, February 28, 2009; 9 am – 4 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Celebrate the spring wildflower season. Exhibits, workshops, nature hikes. This popular annual event has something for the entire family.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Morning Wildflower Walks**

**Day, Date, Time:** Every Friday in March 2009; 9:30 - 10:30 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Friends of the Desert Mountains staff and volunteers

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Enjoy a stroll among desert wildflowers. Discover what is in bloom at this time of the year.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Don't Hug the Teddy Bear.... Cholla!**

**Day, Date, Time:** Thursday, March 12, 2009; 10 am, repeats 2 pm

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Presenter:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** You cannot think of the desert without envisioning cacti. Cacti are incredible plants that are well adapted to life in the desert, but why? Find out the answer to this and many other questions about these succulents as we learn about the members of the cactus family.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984 for more details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Bald Eagle Count at Lake Hemet**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, March 14, 2009; 8:30 – 10 am

**Location:** Lake Hemet

**Guide:** Heidi Lake Hoggan, Wildlife Biologist, US Forest Service

**Sponsor:** US Forest Service, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, and Friends of the Desert Mountains

**Description:** Pack a watch and binoculars to join US Forest Service Wildlife Biologists, in the annual census of our national bird. Free.

**Contact:** RSVP at 909/382-2945 or at [hhoggan@fs.fed.us](mailto:hhoggan@fs.fed.us)

**Name of Event: Wildflower Wonders Nature Hike**

**Day, Date, Time:** Monday, March 16, 2009; 8:30 am – 1 pm

**Location:** Meet at tollgate entrance to Indian Canyons in south Palm Springs

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Explore and appreciate the miracle of wildflowers bursting forth from apparently nowhere, belying the misconception that deserts are barren wastelands. Check them out on desert and canyon streams. Come and find out how they do it! Bring water, snack, lunch, sunscreen and camera. Trekking poles are great for stream crossing on boulders. Rated moderate. Hike is free, but entrance fee to canyons required. Limited to 12 hikers. RSVP.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Hold the Mustard!**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, March 21, 2009; 8 am – Noon

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Crew leader:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Spend the morning helping the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument by lending a hand and pulling out one of its unwanted seasonal visitors. Sahara mustard is an invasive species that comes to life in the spring and threatens the native plants in the area. The exact site of this eradication will depend on which trail near the Visitor Center needs the most help. RSVP requested.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984 for more details and what you will need to bring.

**Name of Event: The Top Ten Scary Desert Creatures**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, April 17, 2009; 7:30 - 9 pm

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guides:** Steve Fuchs, Interpretive Guide, Friends of the Desert Mountains

**Sponsors:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Which desert creatures are most venomous, strongest, and sneakiest? Find out what a public poll determined to be the most feared fauna, and learn about their fascinating abilities. Evening on the patio, BYOBC (bring your own beach chair). Families welcome!

**Contact:** Free, please RSVP. Call Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument at 760/862-9984 to sign up and for more information.

**Name of Event: Hike the Cactus Spring Trail**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, April 28, 2009; 8 am – 2 pm

**Location:** Maps will be distributed at the Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert. Meet at Sawmill Trailhead at 8:30 am.

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** At 4,000 feet beneath the peaks of the Santa Rosa Mountains, the Cactus Spring Trail undulates through a transition between desert and pine forest. Spring wildflowers adorn the trail, adding to the biodiversity of this rich environment. Bring plenty of water and a lunch. Rated moderate to strenuous, the elevation gain is 900 feet in a five-mile roundtrip. RSVP necessary.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: Is Anybody Home? Nature Walk**

**Day, Date, Time:** Friday, May 1, 2009; 8 am – 10 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Danielle Ortiz, Interpretive Ranger, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Do you know what a tarantula's hole or tortoise den looks like? Take an easy walk on the Randall Henderson Trail and learn about what animals live in all those holes and dens seen around the trail. Hike is 3 miles and rated easy.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984 for details and RSVP

**Name of Event: Up High on the Cedar Spring Trail**

**Day, Date, Time:** Tuesday, May 5, 2009; 8 am – 4 pm

**Location:** Meet at Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert, for directions and departure to trailhead.

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** From oak-shaded stream at 5,400 feet, hikers emerge into a flowered meadow and then ascend to the spine of the San Jacinto Mountains at 6,800 feet. Rewarded with invigorating air and wondrous vistas in all directions, continue to Cedar Spring in a stately grove of Incense Cedars. Rated strenuous.



Bring water, food, sunscreen, and camera. Be prepared with warm clothing if the weather is cold. Limited to 12 hikers. RSVP

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984

**Name of Event: I Spy a Reptile**

**Day, Date, Time:** Saturday, May 9, 2009; 9 am – 11 am

**Location:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 51-500 Hwy 74, Palm Desert

**Guide:** Joe Migliore, Desert Naturalist and Certified Interpretive Guide

**Sponsor:** Friends of the Desert Mountains, and Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument

**Description:** Snakes and lizards are superbly adapted scaly critters that almost define “desert.” Learn their extraordinary survival strategies where humans fear to tread. Seek them out for an up-close (maybe not too close) and personal look. Bring the kids!, Also bring binoculars, water, sunscreen, and walking shoes. Free.

**Contact:** Visitor Center, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, 760/862-9984